



Offering New Life in Jesus Christ by Seeking, Shaping and Sending Disciples

2024 Annual Report

New Lifers,

In Luke 17, Jesus meets ten men who have leprosy. They all cry out, "Jesus, master, have pity on us!" Luke continues:

14 When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. 15 One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. 16 He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. 17 Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18 Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?"

Jesus made sure everyone saw this one man's gratitude.

The year of our Lord 2024 was one for the books! Punta Gorda had not one but two hurricanes just two years after Hurricane Ian. One Lead Pastor retired after years of faithful ministry and another pastor arrived! We grieve the losses caused by the storms but we can - and should - still find reasons to say, "Thank you, Lord!"

I am grateful to be serving with you at New Life Church. I'm grateful to follow in the footsteps of a faithful pastor. I'm grateful for the generosity of people like you. I'm also grateful for the ministry this congregation did in 2024.

One of the habits we practice among staff and church leaders are "glory sightings." We try to name where we've seen God at work, or signs of God's glory. It's important that we train ourselves to see where God is really working. It's also important that we say, "Thank you, Lord!"

Can I challenge you before you read this report?

Before you scroll (or turn the page), would you pause and search your memory of the last year. Can you name ONE GLORY SIGHTING that happened in or through New Life Church? Where did you see God work through the people that make up this church family? Before you read any further, name that glory sighting and say, "Thank you, Lord!"

I can't wait to see what ministry we can celebrate together one year from today!

Pastor Casey

SEEKING

all who are missing out on the love of Christ, connecting them to Jesus and His Body, the Church, in a vital, ongoing relationship with him through...

WORSHIP & HOSPITALITY

- We averaged 357 people in-person on Sundays, in addition to special worship services such as Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, plus Easter Sunrise service at Gilchrist Park, and 2 Christmas Eve services, which totaled over 20,589 in worship for the year.
- We had 2,289 online worship views for 2024.
- We received 32 new members through Profession of Faith or Re-Affirmation of Faith, plus 11 who joined by transfer from other Christian churches
- We had 4 baptisms.
- We partnered with YoungLife (high school) and WyldLife (middle school) to bring teens to faith in Jesus Christ.
- We helped the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
- We offered "First Steps" classes to introduce people to New Life Church, and to help them get to know the ways they can grow in their relationship with Christ.



SHAPING

Children, Youth and Adults into the likeness of Jesus through...

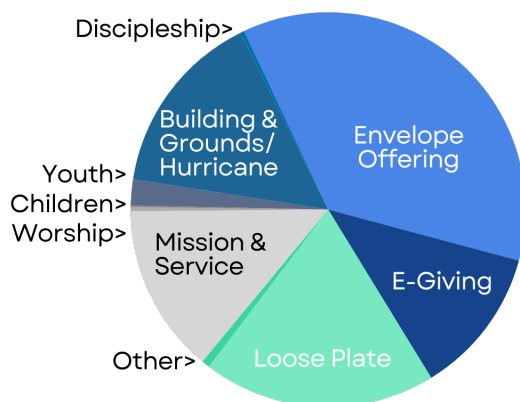
- Prayer over the many concerns of our church, community, nation and world by the members of the Tuesday morning prayer group and the Thursday noon prayer group; 24/7 prayer during Holy Week in 2024.
- 315 people in spiritual formation groups, including:
- Sunday School for children, youth, and adults.
- Weekday Bible Studies for youth and adults.
- Small groups at home and on-campus for spiritual growth of youth and adults.
- The music which aided in our traditional worship included the handbell choir, Chancel Choir, ensembles, and other special music; all under the leadership of Director of Traditional Music, MaryBeth Khamis; in addition, the contemporary Worship Team was led by Worship Leader, Daniel Candia.



SENDING

*missionaries out in the love of Christ...
by partnering with...*

- 8 different missions funded at \$74,590.
- 3 Cuba mission trips, total given \$22,530.
- YoungLife, total given \$41,416.
- Valerie's House, a ministry to children and family who have lost loved ones.
- Residing Hope Children's Home, \$11,702 given.
- Youth summer mission trip to Mescalero, New Mexico for 9 days.
- Operation Christmas Child, sponsored by our United 4 Him youth ministry, sent over 327 boxes to share the love and the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.
- Ministry with the Homeless such as Shower Ministry, partnering with St. Vincent de Paul and Jesus Loves You Ministries, along with Feed the Harbor to stock local food pantries.
- Bountiful Blessings food distribution each Friday to those in need, serving 150+ families each week.
- Our free Community Thanksgiving Dinner fed over 300 people; dozens of people gave hundreds of hours as they rang the bell for Salvation Army's Red Kettle collection at Christmas.
- We provided gifts, love, and Christmas dinner to 24 families through the Foster Children's Network including over 100 children.
- Monthly Birthday lunches for Crossroads Hope Academy.
- GriefShare provided ministry to people grieving the loss of a loved one.
- Cancer Support Ministry provided support for caregivers and those on a cancer journey.
- Today Matters Mental Health prayer team providing weekly visits to Charlotte Behavioral Health Crisis Unit to offer prayer to those in need.



REVENUE

General Fund Revenue

Envelope Offering \$591,013

E-Giving \$197,419

Loose Plate \$311,412

Other \$10,762

Subtotal \$1,110,607

Designated Funds

Mission & Service \$226,808

Worship \$5,530

Children Ministry \$2,043

Youth Ministry \$34,809

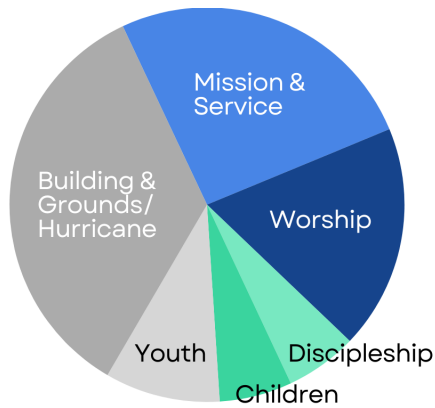
Building & Grounds/

Hurricane \$248,568

Discipleship \$5,119

Subtotal \$522,877

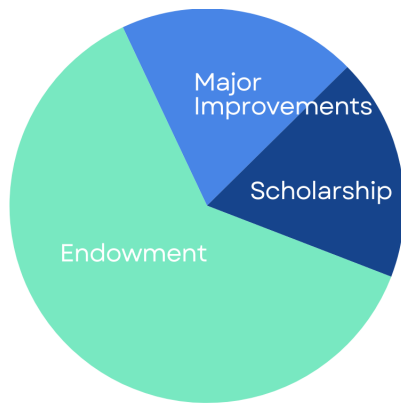
Total Revenue: \$1,633,483



EXPENDITURES

Mission and Service \$462,093
 Worship \$329,932
 Discipleship \$105,606
 Children Ministries \$106,725
 Youth Ministries \$169,380
 Building & Grounds/
 Hurricane \$620,496

Total Expenditures:
\$1,794,232



RESTRICTED FUNDS

Major Improvements \$406,030
 Scholarship \$378,642
 Endowment \$1,287,502

Total Restricted Funds: \$2,072,175

Leadership Committee

Chair: Craig Holcomb
 Pastor: Casey Taylor
 Vice Chair: Fred Buckingham
 Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Gillen

Committee Representatives

Finance: Eddie Webb
 Staffing: Peter Bell
 S.A.L.T Representative: Vacant
 Past Chairman: Lindsay Harrington

Finance Committee

Chair: Eddie Webb
 Leadership Chair: Craig Holcomb
 Stewardship Chair: Dick Brewer
 Staffing Committee Rep: Peter Bell
 Paul Blaine, Bob Tubay